

# REPORT

## ON

# NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 21st December 1889.

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URIYA PAPERS.

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ASSAM PAPERS.

Nil.

## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
<b>BENGALI.</b>				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Kasipore Nibási" ...	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	30	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
2	"Ahammadi" ...	Tangail, Mymensingh	450	
3	"Ave Maria" ...	Calcutta	.....	
4	"Divákar" ...	Ditto	.....	
5	"Gaura Duta" ...	Maldah	.....	
6	"Purva Bangabási" ...	Noakholly	.....	
7	"Purva Darpan" ...	Chittagong	700	
8	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi" ...	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
9	"Arya Darpan" ...	Calcutta	102	13th December 1889.
10	"Bangabási" ...	Ditto	20,000	14th ditto.
11	"Burdwan Sanjibani" ...	Burdwan	302	10th ditto.
12	"Chandra Vilásh" ...	Berhampore	250	
13	"Cháruvartá" ...	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	9th ditto.
14	"Chattal Gazette" ...	Chittagong	800	
15	"Dacca Prakásh" ...	Dacca	1,200	
16	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly	885	13th ditto.
17	"Faridpur Hitaishini" ...	Faridpur	.....	
18	"Garib" ...	Dacca	3,000	
19	"Grambási" ...	Uluberia	800	14th ditto.
20	"Gaurab" ...	Ditto	.....	
21	"Guru Charana" ...	Calcutta	.....	
22	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	300	11th ditto.
23	"Jagatbási" ...	Calcutta	750	
24	"Murshidábád Patriká" ...	Berhampore	508	
25	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi" ...	Ditto	350	
26	"Navavibhákar Sádharani" ...	Calcutta	600	16th ditto.
27	"Pratikár" ...	Berhampore	600	13th ditto.
28	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh" ...	Kakinia, Rungpore	205	
29	"Sahachar" ...	Calcutta	500	11th ditto.
30	"Samaya" ...	Ditto	3,806	13th ditto.
31	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto	4,000	14th ditto.
32	"Samsodhini" ...	Chittagong	800	
33	"Santi" ...	Calcutta	8,722	
34	"Saráswat Patra" ...	Dacca	300	
35	"Som Prasásh" ...	Calcutta	1,000	16th ditto.
36	"Srimanta Saudagár" ...	Ditto	.....	
37	"Sudhakar" ...	Ditto	.....	13th ditto.
38	"Sulabha Samáchar o Kusadaha" ...	Ditto	800	13th ditto.
39	"Surabhi o Patáka" ...	Ditto	700	12th ditto.



No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
<i>Daily.</i>				
40	"Dainik o Samachar Chandrika"	Calcutta	1,500	12th, 16th & 18th & 19th Dec. 1889.
41	"Samvad Prabhakar"	Ditto	800	13th and 16th to 18th ditto.
42	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	12th to 19th ditto.
43	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká"	Ditto	500	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
44	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca	.....	16th December 1889.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
45	"Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Samachar Patrika."	Darjeeling	20	14th ditto.
46	"Kshatriya Pratiká"	Patna	200	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Aryavarta"	Calcutta	1,500	7th ditto.
48	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore	.....	
49	"Bharat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,653	5th and 12th December 1889.
50	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto	500	16th December 1889.
51	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto	4,500	8th ditto.
52	"Hindi Samachar"	Bhagulpore	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
53	"Jám-Jahán-numá"	Calcutta	250	6th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
54	"Aftal Alum Arrah"	Arrah	300	
55	"Akhbar Tusdiq-i-Hind"	Calcutta	.....	
56	"Anis"	Patna	.....	
57	"Gauhur"	Calcutta	196	
58	"Sharaf-ul-Akbar"	Behar	150	
59	"Al Punch"	Bankipore	.....	
60	"Darusaltanat"	Calcutta	340	15th ditto.
61	"Raisul-Akhbari-Moorshidabad"	Murshidabad	.....	
URIA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
62	"Asha"	Cuttack	.....	
63	"Taraka and Subhavartá"	Ditto	.....	
64	"Pradíp"	Ditto	.....	
65	"Samyabadi"	Ditto	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
66	"Dipaka"	Cuttack	.....	7th ditto.
67	"Utkal Dípiká"	Ditto	444	7th ditto.
68	"Samvad Váhika"	Balasore	205	5th ditto.
69	"Urya and Navasamvad"	Ditto	600	4th ditto.
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
70	"Silchar"	Silchar	500	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
71	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	450	







## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Samaya*, of the 13th December, agrees with the *Statesman* newspaper in thinking that a regiment of British troops should be permanently stationed in the Lushai country for the purpose of keeping the wild Lushais in check. Government should in this view construct a good road to the Lushai country.

SAMAYA,  
Dec. 13th, 1889.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (b)—Working of the Courts.

2. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 10th December, says that the inspection of the Judge's Court, Burdwan, by Mr. Justice Prinsep, has already borne fruit. The Judge now holds his court regularly, and is discharging his duties with ability and to the satisfaction of the public.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
Dec. 10th, 1889.

3. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 11th December, refers to the retirement of the Hon'ble Justice Rames Chandra Mitra, and recommends that either a pleader or a member of the Subordinate Judicial Service should be appointed to succeed him. The number of Barrister and Civilian Judges in the High Court is already large, and it will be well if a competent pleader or an experienced Sub-Judge is elevated to the Bench.

HINDU RANJIKI,  
Dec. 11th, 1889.

4. The *Sudhakar*, of the 13th December, desires Government to entitle itself to the gratitude of the people by appointing this time a Mussulman Judge in the Calcutta High Court. The writer does not favour the proposal made by the *Pioneer* that Moulvi Syud Mahmud should be transferred from the Allahabad High Court to the Calcutta High Court, for in that case the Allahabad High Court will in all probability be without a Mahomedan Judge. The writer wants another Mussulman Judge, wheresoever he may be appointed.

SUDHAKAR,  
Dec. 13th, 188

5. The *Sanjivani*, of the 14th December, is glad to see that Mr. Amir Ali has been offered the vacant Judgeship in the Calcutta High Court. His elevation to the High Court Bench will remove a long-standing grievance of the Mussulman community of Bengal.

SANJIVANI,  
Dec. 14th, 1889

6. The *Bangabasi*, of the 14th December, is glad to find that the Nizam has ruled that female witnesses should be examined by females within his dominion. A similar arrangement ought to be made by Government for taking the evidence of respectable female witnesses.

BANGABASI,  
Dec. 14th, 1889.

7. The same paper will be glad if an officer of the Subordinate Judicial Service is appointed a Judge of the High Court in place of the Hon'ble Justice Rames Chandra Mitra. Government should select the fittest man for the post. The writer would be happy to see a deserving Mahomedan appointed to the post; but there are unfortunately few men among Mahomedans fit for the vacant post. The names of Muhammad Yusuf Khan, Bahadoor, and the Hon'ble Amir Hossain have been mentioned in this connection. But are they fit for the post?

BANGABASI.

## (c)—Jails.

8. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 11th December, says that on Monday, the 9th December, two constables were going to the Beaulah steamer ghât with two prisoners who were to be transferred to the Pubna jail.

HINDU RANJIKI,  
Dec. 11th, 1889.

A convict beaten by a constable at Rampore Beaulah.



They halted for a short time near the local college for the purpose of smoking, when one of them mercilessly beat one of the convicts named Azam Shaik with his shoe. It is much to be regretted that prisoners should be thus beaten by police constables without any offence on their part. The attention of Mr. Price, Magistrate of Rajshahye, and of the Magistrate of Pubna is drawn to the matter. The assault was committed in the presence of a large number of people whose names and addresses the writer will be able to furnish if required. The constables refused to give their names though they were repeatedly asked to do so.

(d)—Education.

CHARUVARTÁ,  
Dec. 9th, 1889.

9. A correspondent of the *Cháruvartá*, of the 9th December, says that examiners for the Lower Primary Examination in Mymensingh were formerly selected from among the teachers of middle schools, but since the making over of primary education to the District Boards, the clerks of these Boards have begun to be appointed examiners. Last year the education clerk of the Mymensingh District Board was appointed examiner, and this year two other clerks have been appointed. There are seven or eight clerks in the Board's office, and it is feared that the Board will in future appoint all of them as examiners, thereby proving the truth of the maxim, "Charity begins at home."

SAHACHAR,  
Dec. 11th, 1889.

10. The *Sahachar*, of the 11th December, says that the public will no doubt be glad to learn that Mr. Justice Gurudas Banerji will be shortly appointed Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University. That the Doctor fully deserves this honour is admitted on all hands. By appointing him Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University the Governor-General has done honour both to the country and to the University. It is hoped that Dr. Mahendra Lal Sarkar will be the next recipient of this honour.

SAHACHAR.

11. The same paper draws the attention of the authorities to a class of pathsalas in Calcutta, where some 50 to 60 boys are made to sit in dark, damp, and ill-ventilated rooms 8 to 10 cubits by 5 to 6 cubits. This should not be allowed to be done, and the pathsalas should be either located in better rooms or peremptorily closed.

SURABHI-O-PATÁKÁ,  
Dec. 12th, 1889.

12. The *Surabhi-o-Patáká*, of the 12th December, is glad to learn that Dr. Gurudas Banerji has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University, and hopes that, under the Doctor's Vice-Chancellorship, the management of the University affairs will be freed from such scandals as are now heard in connection with them. The necessity of having a man like Dr. Gurudas as executive head of the University has been long felt, and Lord Lansdowne deserves to be thanked for having given the Vice-Chancellorship to the Doctor.

SUDHAKAR,  
Dec. 13th, 1889.

13. The *Sudhakar*, of the 13th December, says that Mussulmans are far behind Hindus in education. Government has not done all that it ought to have done to remedy this evil. The special scholarships established for Mussulman candidates in the Entrance and First Arts Examinations will indeed greatly benefit the Mussulman community, but that benefit will be confined to the wealthier sections of that community, and will not be enjoyed by the poorer sections who cannot for want of means educate their sons up to those standards. The great majority of Mussulmans, high and low, have become poor in consequence of Persian having ceased to be the official language of the country. If, under these circumstances, upper primary education is to be diffused among Mussulmans, the age limit fixed for scholars at the Middle



Vernacular and Middle English Scholarship Examinations ought to be raised from 14 or 15 to 16 or 17, and special scholarships ought to be established for Mussulman candidates in those examinations as for those in the Entrance and First Arts Examinations. Mussulman boys, who have to read Arabic and Persian first of all for religious purposes, cannot appear at those examinations at so early an age as 13 or 14.

14. The *Samaya*, of the 13th December, says that the last M.A. Examination was extremely mismanaged. Some of the questions in one of the Sanskrit papers having been selected from books not included in the curriculum of the examination, the examinees brought the fact to the notice of the Registrar, and new questions were therefore framed then and there to take the place of the wrong ones. But the examinees could not answer the new questions for want of time, and they will have good reason for complaint if their marks are deducted for not having answered the new questions.

SAMAYA,  
Dec. 13th, 1889.

15. The *Education Gazette*, of the 13th December, refers to a letter written by Baboo Prafulla Chandra Banerjee to Raja Rajendra Lal Mitra, C.I.E., requesting the latter to take steps to ensure the study of Bengali in all schools affiliated to the University, and to have that language included in the curriculum of all the University examinations; and says that Prafulla Baboo's proposal in all essential respects is the same as that which was made to the University authorities in 1862-63 by some people who wanted to see Bengali made the medium of examination in all subjects, except English and Sanskrit. That proposal was rejected on the ground that no competent men could be found to conduct examinations in Bengali; but as that ground does not now exist, the University authorities will, it is hoped, see their way to giving effect to Prafulla Baboo's proposal.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,  
Dec. 13th, 1889.

16. The *Sanjivani*, of the 14th December, says that in one of the Sanskrit papers in the last M.A. Examination questions were set from *Bhārabi* instead of *Māgh*, the poem appointed for that examination.

SANJIVANI,  
Dec. 14th, 1889.

When the candidates brought this to the notice of the Registrar, Mr. Tawney, he informed the examiner of the mistake that had been made, and the latter then hastily prepared a paper from *Māgh*, which, however, the candidates justly declined to receive for want of time. Now, who is to be held responsible for this mistake? Surely the examinees ought not to suffer for it. It is really difficult to understand why people are appointed examiners who have not even the sense to keep themselves informed of the textbooks in which they are required to examine. It is the practice so greatly favoured by the Syndicate of appointing every professor in the Presidency College an examiner, that is responsible for the repeated occurrence of these scandals.

17. The same paper is exceedingly glad to learn that Justice Gurudas Banerji has been appointed to succeed Sir Comer Petheram as Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University. Justice Banerji has worked so hard and continuously in connection with the affairs of the University that his new honour—an honour conferred for the first time on a native—will meet with public approval. His Excellency Lord Lansdowne is entitled to the gratitude of the native community for making this appointment. It is to be hoped that under the new Vice-Chancellor the scandals which have hitherto attended the management of the University affairs will be impossible.

SANJIVANI.

18. The *Bangabasi*, of the 14th December, approves of the appointment of Dr. Gurudas Banerji as Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University. Justice

BANGABASI,  
Dec. 14th, 1889.

The Hon'ble Dr. Gurudas Banerji  
as Vice-Chancellor.



Banerji is the first native appointed to the post, and he fully deserves the honour.

GRAMBASI,  
Dec. 14th, 1889.

19. The *Grámbási*, of the 14th December, says that the character of the inspection work done by Deputy Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of Schools will greatly improve if those officers are asked not to travel more than a specified number of miles, and to inspect only a specified number of schools daily.

SOM PRAKASH,  
Dec. 16th, 1889.

20. The *Sam Prakásh*, of the 16th December, referring to Dr. Gurudas Banerji's appointment to the Vice-Chancellorship of the Calcutta University, says that the Doctor is perhaps the fittest man for this honour. Lord Lansdowne deserves hearty thanks for making this appointment. Dr. Gurudas is the first native of this country upon whom the honour of Vice-Chancellorship of the Calcutta University has been conferred. It is hoped that under his incumbency the Calcutta University will be free from the scandals which now mark its proceedings.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Dec. 18th, 1889.

21. The *Dainik-o-Sámáchar Chandriká*, of the 18th December, after dwelling on the large number of books which boys reading for the Middle Vernacular and Middle English scholarship examinations have to master, thus criticises the list of text-books for those examinations for 1892, prepared by the Director of Public Instruction. Under the head of Bengali literature are included a book containing extracts from Pandit Isvara Chandra Vidyasagar's *Sitar Vanavasa*, the late Babu Akshaya Kumar Datta's *Charupath*, Part III, and Babu Jadugopal Chattopadhyaya's *Padya Páth*, Part III. In place of these three books, two books should have been prescribed,—one in prose and another in verse. Under history are given the chapters on Greece and Rome in the old, antiquated and foul-smelling *Puravritta Sara* of Babu Bhudeb Chandra Mukerjee, late Inspector of Schools, and the present editor of the *Education Gazette*. Why should Bengali boys be made to read the histories of Greece and Rome? Already they are being ruined by the perusal of translations of histories of India written by Christians and Englishmen. And over and above this, they must now read Babu Bhudeb Chandra's book written in that gentleman's youthful years! This book has been selected evidently with the object of putting some money into Bhudeb Babu's pocket. When will scandals in connection with the selection of text-books cease? How is it that the selection of text-books for these examinations has become a monopoly in the hands of the Director of Public Instruction?

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
Dec. 10th, 1889.

22. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 10th December, says that Government wants to improve village sanitation, and contemplates establishing Union Committees for the purpose. Government believes that the work of village sanitation can be best done by the villagers themselves, and is therefore anxious to make over that work to them. But as most of the villages are inhabited by ignorant agricultural people, possessing little or no knowledge of sanitation, where will men be found to work on the proposed committees? And even if fit men are found, the Committees will be wholly powerless for doing any good, because the ignorance and superstition of the villagers will stand in the way of their schemes being carried out. Besides, as these villagers are too poor to pay any new tax that may have to be levied for sanitation purposes, where will funds for the sanitary work come from? Government should therefore give up the idea of establishing Union Committees in the agricultural villages. It should select large flourishing



villages, inhabited by rich men, and trades people, and establish municipalities there instead of Union Committees. These municipalities should levy the usual municipal rates, and take care not to levy any special rate for the purpose of village improvement, for the levy of a new tax is likely to be objected to by the people. They have been paying the road cess for some time, but they have derived very little benefit therefrom. They will therefore object to pay any new special tax.

The imposition of a new tax will also make the people suspect the motives of Government, and regard the cry for village sanitation as a pretext for increasing their burdens.

23. The same paper draws the attention of the authorities to the sale of putrid fish in the bazars of Burdwan, and says that, if the importation of such fish is not put a stop to, sickness is sure to break out in the town.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
Dec. 10th, 1889.

24. The same paper says that the present arrangements for the supply of filtered water in the town of Burdwan are imperfect. There are at present only two engines—one for pumping, and another for distributing water in the town. And if one of them gets out of order, the water-supply of the town must be stopped at least for three or four days. Under these circumstances, the Commissioners of the town ought to buy a new engine with the 10,000 rupees sanctioned for drainage, postponing drainage work till sufficient funds are forthcoming for the purpose.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

25. The *Grámbási*, of the 14th December, approves of the new rule made at the instance of the Director of Public Instruction, under which the Deputy Inspectors of Schools will be appointed official members of District Boards, and says that in the same manner the District Engineers and the Civil Surgeons should be made members either of the District Boards or of the Sub-Committees formed under those Boards. For if that is done, the Boards may receive much good advice on sanitary and other matters from these officers.

GRAMBASI,  
Dec. 14th, 1889.

26. The same paper says that the rules framed for the administration of ferries in the sub-division of Uluberia are good, but as no one enquires whether or not these rules are observed by the farmers of ferries, complaints in connection with them are very common. The following is a list of such complaints:—

GRAMBASI.

1. The rule requiring farmers of ferries to ferry people without delay and to keep ready for that purpose a sufficient number of boats properly manned is often neglected. As a consequence passengers have often to row boats themselves. Again at times the manji being absent from the ferry, they have to wait for hours before they are ferried over.
2. The rule requiring the farmers to set up at a ferry a list of rates written in the vernacular is often neglected, and passengers have to pay whatever rates the farmers choose to demand from them.
3. The rule prohibiting the farmers from charging ferry rates upon certain persons, such, for instance, as take their animals across the ferry at their own risk or cost, is not often observed.
4. The rule requiring the carrying of lights on ferry boats after sunset is often broken.
5. The rules requiring the farmers to construct proper landing stages and rest-houses at the ferries for the convenience of the

Sale of putrid fish in the bazars of Burdwan.

Supply of filtered water in the Town of Burdwan.

District Engineers and Civil Surgeons as members of District Boards.

Ferries in the Uluberia sub-division.



passengers are often set at nought. In the district of Howrah the ferry at Mahisrakha is the principal ferry; and here people have to wade through half the width of the river before getting on the boats.

6. The rule requiring the farmers to have painted outside their boats the number of passengers and animals, and the figures representing the quantity of goods they are entitled to carry, is often neglected.

The police officers stationed at the ferries do not see that the ferry rules are properly observed. Possibly their mouth has been shut by bribes. The Chairman of the District and Local Boards should look to the matter.

BANGABASI,  
Dec. 14th, 1889.

Night-soil service within the Konnagore ward of the Serampore Municipality.

27. A correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 14th December, says that, though the latrine-tax is being regularly collected in the Konnagore ward of the Serampore Municipality, the mehters do not regularly perform their duty. The latrines are not cleansed even once a week.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
Dec. 10th, 1889.

A road from Ichhapore to Ranigunge in the district of Burdwan.

28. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 10th December, says that the absence of a road from Ichhapore to either of the railway stations of Ranigunge and Andal is much felt by traders and other people living in Ichhapore. The construction of the proposed road will benefit the people of about 200 to 300 villages in that part of the country. The authorities should look to the matter.

BANGABASI,  
Dec. 14th, 1889.

The accident near the Chitpore Station on the Eastern Bengal State Railway.

29. The *Bangabási*, of the 14th December, furnishes the following details about the injuries received by the passengers in the No. 29 up-train which left Sealdah at 6-38 P.M. on Saturday, in consequence of an accident near the Chitpore station:—

The Station-Master of Chitpore reported that the slip carriage collided with the train with a very small force, and that the passengers received no injury. But the case was not such. A woman received a severe shock in her loins, and could not rise; the fingers of two women were badly bruised; fifteen passengers for Belgharia, who were in the slip carriage, received more or less injuries. Of these passengers, Gopal Chander Mookerje's head has been fractured, the injury received by Sarat Chandra Chatterjee and Kader Nath Bhattacharyya has confined them to bed for five or six days. The shock received by Nashiram Chatterji, Nirod Ghosal, and Gopal Chatterji is very severe. The faces and hands of many passengers have been badly lacerated, and many have lost their teeth. The Railway authorities personally saw two wounded passengers; but they have not stated this in their reports. The accident was due to the practice of attaching slip carriages, the advantage of which is very small, but which is likely to be attended with disastrous consequences. The Railway authorities are therefore requested to abolish the practice of attaching slip carriages to railway trains.

BANGABASI.

30. A correspondent of the same paper, says that the bridge between Kulugura and Amrasobha on the Ranigunge-Birbhum road is out of repair. The wooden posts and railings on both sides of the bridge are gone, and it has therefore become very unsafe for travel and traffic. The authorities are requested to look to the matter.

BANGABASI.

31. Another correspondent of the same paper says that, though the road cess is regularly collected at Domkol, in Moorshedabad, the roads there are not regularly repaired. The subject of the repair of roads

The roads at Domkol in Moorshedabad.



is discussed in the meetings of the Road Cess Committee, but no action is taken in the matter.

32. The *Navavibhakar Sádharaní*, of the 16th December, says that the passenger line of the Budge-Budge Railway will be carried up to Sealdah through the Matla line, instead of being carried up to the Strand Road through Kidderpore-Wattgunge. This arrangement will attract to the Railway few passengers bound for Calcutta, as for the most part passengers travelling to Calcutta from Budge-Budge transact business in Burrabazar, Chinabazar, and in the quarters in which the offices are situated. It will be very inconvenient for these passengers to go to these quarters by the above circuitous route.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI,  
Dec. 16th, 1889.

(h)—General.

33. The *Sulabh Samáchar-o-Kushdaha*, of the 13th December, says that the working of the rule issued by Government prohibiting clerks serving in the Bengal Secretariat and the offices subordinate to it to write in newspapers will have the effect of increasing oppression by the heads of those offices and discontent among the clerks. Government will necessarily not know of such increase of oppression, and the grievances of the clerks will therefore remain unredressed. Such treatment of the clerks will be tantamount to beating a man with a gag put into his mouth, or burning him closely confined in a box. If Government does not like that any complaints regarding oppression in its offices should appear in the newspapers, it should see that no occasion arises for making such complaints.

SULABH SAMACHAR-O-  
KUSHDAHA,  
Dec. 13th, 1889.

34. The *Pratikár*, of the 13th December, is much concerned to hear that the Income-tax will be made permanent. It is useless to oppose any measure which Government has determined upon. Englishmen are the conquerors of India, and the Indians are the conquered. The former can therefore levy as many taxes as they like upon the latter. The people of India are loyal, and will pay the taxes imposed on them, and Provincial Governors will report that the people cheerfully pay all the taxes, and it is not necessary to issue warrants, &c., for their collection. The newspaper editors will write in vain about the misery and hardship caused to the people by the imposition of new taxes. It is a painful fact that the poor people of India are overburdened with taxes, and that they are unable to bear the pressure of taxation any longer.

PRATIKAR,  
Dec. 13th, 1889.

Even the beggar has now to pay the Income-tax. The Government has fixed the minimum assessable income at Rs. 500, but the tax is levied by the assessors upon people whose income is less even than Rs. 250. The suffering of the middle class is therefore very great. The rich people and people with fixed incomes can pay the tax without difficulty, but the poor middle class people, who find it so hard to earn a living, can ill afford to pay it. The announcement that the Income-tax will be made permanent will therefore cause pain to many.

The *Sanjivani* newspaper fondly imagines that, if the Income-tax is made permanent, the Salt tax will be abolished.

The *Sanjivani* has perhaps forgotten all about the condition of the middle class in this country, and the maxim that it is not safe to repose trust in women and in the rulers of men.

35. The *Samaya*, of the 13th December, is extremely sorry to hear of the retirement of Mr. Justice Rames Chandra Mitra. As a Judge of the High Court, Justice Rames Chandra has earned a reputation for ability and legal acumen which ought to silence those who say that the natives of India are not yet fit to be appointed to high posts in the public service. The High Court has lost a jewel by Justice Mitra's retirement.

SAMAYA,  
Dec. 13th, 1889.

A successor to Mr. Justice Rames Chandra Mitra.



The question of appointing a successor to Justice Rames Chandra is being discussed in the Press. The writer has not the least doubt that Government will on the present occasion show the same impartiality and power of making a proper selection as it did on previous occasions. The High Court has now 13 Judges, of whom three are pleader-judges. And now that one of the pleader-judges is going to retire, justice requires that either a Pleader or a Subordinate Judge should be appointed in place of the retiring man.

SAMAYA,  
Dec. 13th, 1889.

36. The same paper says that the present excited condition of the Kols of Chota Nagpore and the Central Provinces is due to exaction and oppression by their zemindars. The Government officers should have tried to prevent the rising. But as there is a rising already, it is the duty of Government to take prompt measures to prevent it from assuming a serious turn. If this is not done, Government will find itself face to face with serious difficulty.

The Kol rising in Chota Nagpore and the Central Provinces.

BANGABASI,  
Dec. 14th, 1889.

37. The *Bangabasi*, of the 14th December, is glad to find that the attention of Government has been directed to the question of strengthening the Lalitakuri embankment. It is upon this embankment that the safety of the Moorshedabad, Nuddea, Jessore, Khulna and the 24-Pergunnahs districts depends during floods. The writer will be glad if Government also directs the repair of the Kulir embankment, which protects Nuddea against the floods of the Jalangi river.

The Lalitakuri embankment in Moorshedabad.

SANJIVANI,  
Dec. 14th, 1889.

38. The *Sanjivani*, of the 14th December, says that, considering the great eagerness of the Government to extend its empire on all sides of India, it is no wonder that its military expenditure goes on increasing. And unless this desire to extend the empire is curbed, the Indians, who are a poor people, will be crushed under the burden of this ever-growing expenditure.

The military expenditure of Government.

SANJIVANI.

39. The same paper says that, though it is not wholly opposed to the practice of selecting Deputy Magistrates by nomination, it still believes that the best way to select men for the public service is to hold competitive examinations for that purpose. Of the four men recently appointed Deputy Magistrates under the nomination system, two are Muslims and graduates of the Calcutta University, and another is a graduate and a passed student of the Cirencester Agricultural College, and so there can be nothing to say about their ability or fitness. But the case is otherwise with the fourth man, who is not known to have given proof of much learning or intelligence. He is a son of Rai Radhika Prasanna Mukerji Bahadur, the Inspector of Schools, Presidency Division, and an Assistant to the Bengali Translator to Government. If the latter circumstance be any proof of fitness, surely there may be many others, who have like him failed to pass the F. A. Examination, equally fit for Deputy Magistrateships. Unfortunately their fathers are not Rai Bahadurs, and so the door of patronage is closed against them. And it is simply because the nomination system makes it possible for such undeserving men to obtain admission into the public service that the writer is an advocate of competitive examinations. It behoves Sir John Edgar to remember that by making more than one such appointment under the pressure of recommendation, he is bringing discredit on his former good name.

The Deputy Magistrates selected by nomination.

SANJIVANI.

40. Referring to the destruction of a large number of men and domestic animals in British India, caused last year by snakes and wild animals, the same paper says that the Government has so completely disarmed the Indians that they have not now in their houses even

Deaths caused by wild animals and snakes last year.



weapons with which they can protect their cattle from the ravages of wild animals, whose inroads have in consequence greatly increased. Will not Government mitigate the rigours of the Arms Act in view of this large destruction of men and cattle every year? There may be some saving of public expenditure if the people are permitted to keep arms in their houses.

41. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 16th December, says that, in appointing a Judge to the Calcutta High Court in the place of Justice Ramesh Chandra Mitra, Government should be guided by Lord Cross's despatch, to the effect that the number of Pleader-Judges in the Calcutta High Court should be made equal to that of Civilian and Barrister Judges, of whom there is already a sufficient number.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI,  
Dec. 16th, 1889.

42. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 18th December, has the following on the subject of Mr. Amir Ali's appointment to the High Court:—Mr. Amir Ali is a Mahomedan—a native of India—but he is also a Barrister educated in England, and as such he has no just claim to the post which has fallen vacant by the retirement of Justice Mitter. The writer is therefore dissatisfied that he has been appointed to the High Court. He is dissatisfied because the law requiring one-third of the total number of the High Court Judgeships to be held by native pleaders and Sub-Judges has not been followed in this instance. Mr. Amir Ali's appointment cannot be considered a Native appointment. He is a Barrister, and his appointment has the effect of increasing the number of Barrister-Judges and injuring the interests of the natives of this country. No one with any sense of justice will approve of Mr. Amir Ali's appointment. The writer is dissatisfied not because Mr. Amir Ali is a Mahomedan, but because a Barrister has been appointed to a post to which a native pleader or a Sub-Judge ought to have been appointed. The writer has no mind to discuss the question of Mr. Amir Ali's fitness for the post. That question would have arisen if Mr. Amir Ali had been a pleader or a Sub-Judge.

DAINIK-O SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Dec. 18th, 1889.

### III.—LEGISLATIVE.

43. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 11th December, says that Lord Cross's draft Bill about the reorganization of the Indian Legislative Councils will not satisfy the Indians. Does Lord Cross only intend by his Bill to baffle Mr. Bradlaugh's efforts in the same direction?

HINDU RANJIKA,  
Dec. 11th, 1889.

### IV.—NATIVE STATES.

44. The *Pratikar*, of the 13th December, says that the present condition of the Cashmere State is very deplorable. It appears from the newspapers published in Cashmere that anarchy is reigning there. Maharaja Pratap Singh is ruler only in name, and his condition is no better than that of the French King before the French Revolution, with this difference, that the French King was deposed by his people, whilst the Maharaja of Cashmere has been deposed through the tricks of the English Resident at his Court. The French, who deposed their King, were then mad after liberty; but in Cashmere the party, headed by Colonel Nisbet, is madly engaged in doing acts of high-handedness. All bad acts were done in the name of the French King, and that is also the case in Cashmere. Every one in Cashmere is doing just as he pleases. People are being sent to jail for showing respect for Pratap Singh. Cases of theft, [dacoity and rape have increased. Large bungalows are being erected for the accommodation of Englishmen, and good roads are in course of preparation for their convenience of travelling. Large presents are being

PRATIKAR,  
Dec. 13th, 1889.



made out of the State funds; the Maharaja of Kapurthulla and other Chiefs have been invited, and a large amount of money is being spent in their reception. There is great merry-making in Cashmere. The Maharaja's money is being used by others, and Heaven alone knows what is in store for the Cashmere State! Is Pratap Singh still alive? He must be more dead than alive!

#### V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

BANGABASI  
Dec. 14th, 1889.

45. A correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 14th Decemher, says that the present condition of the people of Harisankarpore and the neighbouring villages in Jessore is very deplorable. The last excessive rainfall has destroyed a fourteen-anna portion of the *rabi* crops. Many are dying of cholera in the village, and the virulence of the disease has not yet abated. The fishermen of the village are destroying the purity of the river water by steeping branches of trees in it for fishing purposes.

BANGABASI.

46. Another correspondent of the same paper says that the late excessive rainfall has done great damage to the paddy crops. The paddy gathered on the cultivators' yards has germinated. They are therefore obliged to purchase rice, though there is paddy in their houses. The condition of the *aman* crop is not good. The *rabi* crops growing on low lands are submerged, and many fields are still under water.

BANGABASI.

47. Another correspondent of the same paper says that the excessive rainfall of Aghran has submerged the crops. The people are wailing in distress. Thefts are being committed in the neighbouring villages. *Aus* rice is selling at Rs. 4 per maund.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

SAHACHAR,  
Dec. 11th, 1889.

48. The *Sahachar*, of the 11th December, does not like the Rink proposal made at the Town Hall meeting. The skating rink is a place of amusement intended only for the Europeans and is situated in one extremity of the town farthest from the native quarters. If the Prince is entertained there, the entertainment will be enjoyed only by the Europeans. It was for this reason that many native gentlemen who came to the meeting for the purpose of supporting Sir Comer, voted for Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee's amendment. But for all that, Babu Surendra Nath ought not to have brought in his amendment, because he knew well that those who would vote for his amendment were not the persons who would be able to pay subscriptions for a memorial. Babu Surendra Nath committed two mistakes on the occasion. In the first place, he played too much into the hands of his European supporters, forgetting that the latter value their native friends so long as they are of service to them, and then cast them away or make catspaw of them if necessary. This is exactly what happened in this instance. Both Sir Henry Harrison and Mr. Cotton were in favour of Babu Surendra Nath's amendment. Sir Henry knew that if Surendra Babu's amendment were carried, the municipality would be freed from the necessity of contributing towards the construction of a leper asylum. As for Mr. Cotton, he had promised to support Babu Surendra Nath's amendment, but when he saw that the amendment would not be accepted by the Europeans, he gave up the idea of seconding it.

In the second place, by bringing school-boys to support his amendment, Babu Surendra Nath gave colour to the charge brought against him by his enemies that he is spoiling school-boys. For students to take part in



politics is against good taste. Let no one quote against this the practice or example of Europe. For, even there, whenever school-boys have meddled in politics, they have become food for cannon. In England, students are not permitted to mix in politics. And considering the condition of this country, boys here should not be allowed to read even newspapers. The incident of last Friday was a most deplorable one, and Sir Steuart Bayley felt himself insulted by it. But it was a mistake to invite the Lieutenant-Governor to that meeting.

The people now have to pay so many taxes that they are naturally unwilling to spend money on *tamashas*. But they nevertheless consider it their duty to spend money on the reception of their future ruler. And the majority of them do not like the idea of a leper asylum, and so the proposal for the establishment of a leper asylum should not have been made at all.

It is rumoured that there will be another meeting for the purpose of raising subscriptions for the reception of the Prince. The projectors of this meeting should take care not to select the Maidan as the place for the Prince's entertainment. They should choose some place in the heart of the town or the garden at Belgachia for the purpose.

The writer hears that an indignation meeting will be held to protest against Surendra Babu's action at the Town Hall meeting. Those who intend doing so should bear in mind that Babu Surendra Nath's motive was good in bringing forward his amendment, and should accordingly desist from holding any such meeting, which will only result in making themselves ridiculous.

49. The *Hindu Ranjiká*, of the 11th December, says that the execution of Tantia Bhil will be a lasting stain on Lord Lansdowne's administration.

Tantia Bhil.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,  
Dec. 11th, 1889.

The export trade of India.

50. The *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 12th December, has the following on the export trade of India:—

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Dec. 12th, 1889.

It is customary for people to compare India with the United States and to argue in the following style:—"The export trade of the United States is very large, and so is that of India. But the United States have grown rich by their export trade, and so India must also be growing rich by the same trade." Those who argue in this way make the initial error of at all instituting a comparison between the two countries. That there can be no comparison between them in this respect will appear from the following considerations:—The United States are a new country, where the land has begun to be cultivated quite recently, and where there are extensive tracts of land to be still brought under cultivation. So the yield per bigha there is nearly double the yield per bigha in old countries like India, where the land has been cultivated from time immemorial. The area of the United States again is 36 lakhs of square miles, while that of British India is only 874,220 square miles, and that of all India including Burma only 1,383,504 square miles, and it should be borne in mind in this connection that the survey of lands in the United States has not yet been completed. In the two countries the areas under wheat cultivation are nearly equal, being about 101,300,000 bighas in each. But while in the United States the yield of wheat is 40 crores of bushels, that in India is less than half that quantity. Again, the population of India is five times that of the United States. And as the Indians are chiefly a grain-eating people, the consumption of wheat in India is nearly five times as large as that in the United States.

These considerations should make it clear that while the United States can easily export large quantities of wheat, India cannot spare even a chittack for exportation. And yet India is being made to export, for the sake of the English, wheat worth seven or eight crores of rupees per annum! That



is to say, India's own people are being robbed of their share of wheat in order that her English masters may import it into their own country, which cannot produce sufficient grain for the support of her people.

Every country ought to set apart sufficient quantities of its produce for consumption by its own people and as a reserve against bad seasons, and it ought to export only what remains over. The exportation of wheat by the United States is regulated on this sound and wholesome principle. But the case is different with India, which is not a free country, which has not the power to regulate her export trade in accordance with sound principles, and which is compelled to increase its exports for the sake of its English masters.

England is a manufacturing country, and she wants India to produce raw-material for her manufacture and grain for the support of her people. She, therefore, encourages India to produce only those things which she herself requires. And that is the reason why wheat, jute, cotton, sesamum, linseed, mustard are now extensively cultivated in, and largely exported by, India. As to wheat, its exportation has increased to such an extent, and so great an impetus has in consequence been given to its cultivation, that lands which formerly used to be set apart for the cultivation of other crops are now being brought under wheat cultivation.

In 1878, 54 per cent. of the total number of bighas of cultivated land in the Punjab were under wheat cultivation; in 1883, the percentage rose to 61. In the North-Western Provinces, 57 per cent. of the cultivated bighas were under wheat cultivation in 1878; in 1883 the percentage rose to 97! The figures for the said two years are 27 and 45, respectively, for the Central Provinces, 17 and 97, respectively, for the Berars!

It is clear from this that the area cultivated with other food-grains than wheat is decreasing, and the outturn of those grains is becoming smaller every year.

This unnatural export trade, by reducing the food-stock of the country, is doing great mischief to it. It is true that this export trade is bringing money into the country; but the wealth of a country is not to be measured by the amount of gold and silver in it. European education and European trade have made the people of this country contract luxurious habits of life, and showy articles of European manufacture, such as bags, umbrellas, &c., are now in common use here. But he will make a serious error who shall judge from this that the country is becoming rich.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Dec. 12th, 1889.

51. The same paper is glad to learn that Baboo Abhilash Chandra Mookerjee, son of Baboo Radhika Prasanna Mookerjee, Inspector of Schools, has been appointed a Deputy Magistrate, and will be still more glad if an able man possessed of linguistic attainments is appointed in his place in the office of the Bengali Translator to Government.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA,  
Dec. 12th, 1889.

The Town Hall meeting.

Town Hall meeting:—

52. The *Surabhi-o-Patáká*, of the 12th December, has the following about the recent

According to some the recent meeting at the Town Hall was a total collapse. According to Baboo Rajkumar Sarvadhikari and Mr. Clarke, Secretaries to the Committee appointed by the British Indian Association, the meeting did not collapse, but on Babu Surendra Nath's amendment being carried the Committee which was to carry out Sir Comer Petheram's proposal ceased to exist, and the proceedings of the meeting were naturally brought to a close. Which of these two views is correct? It is said that on Baboo Surendra Nath's proposal being carried, Sir Steuart Bayley angrily left the meeting without bringing its proceedings to a close. On this point also opinions differ. According to the *Hindu Patriot*, His Honour left after having brought the proceedings of the meeting to a close. The public are in doubt



as to which of these views is correct, and the writer will be glad if His Honour will kindly enlighten the public on the subject.

Sir Comer Petheram's proposal consisted of four parts. The first part related to the appointment of a Committee for the purpose of raising subscriptions, the second part related to the Prince's reception at the Prinsep's Ghât, the third part related to an entertainment at the Rink, and the fourth part related to the disposal of the surplus fund. Baboo Surendra Nath's amendment did not touch the first two parts of Sir Comer's proposal. It affected only the third and fourth parts. This being the case, it is not easy to see why the Committee appointed to raise subscriptions for the Prince's reception ceased to exist after Baboo Surendra Nath's amendment was carried.

The Committee in question have at least 200 members with power to add to this number. That a good many of these members are unwilling to carry out Surendra Baboo's proposal is certain. So the proper course now would be to ascertain whether there are amongst the members any who are willing to give effect to that proposal. For if there be even one member willing to do so, he will be a Committee by himself, and will be entitled to carry out the proposal.

Baboo Surendra Nath's proposal has met with opposition chiefly from two classes of men, namely, the wealthy and the men who pique themselves on their learning, position, and years. The rich men know that the bulk of the contributions will come from themselves, and they cannot brook the idea that middle class men, whose contributions will amount to a comparatively trifling sum, should have any hand in the disposal of the money which will be raised. They argue thus:—"We will give lakhs for the Prince's reception, and it is our lookout how our money is spent." It is true that they will contribute lakhs, but it is also true that the poor people of the country will also send in their contributions, however trifling in amount. And is not a pice given by the starving clerk or school-master worth one thousand rupees of the pot-bellied rich? The poor will have to deny their wives and children their veritable morsels of rice in order to be able to contribute towards the reception fund, and they cannot surely look calmly on while proposals are made for spending money thus given on empty shows. They saw much money wasted in this way on the occasion of the visits of the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh, and on the occasion of the Queen's Jubilee, and they cannot allow the same process of wasting money to be again repeated. And are the poor to be denied the right of saying what they have to say about the disposal of the Prince's Reception Fund simply because their contributions to that fund will be small? The rich are very few in number, but the poor number by the lakh. Is it therefore proper that the former should do anything in this matter without consulting the latter? And if they do so at all, why should they do it in the name of the public?

Baboo Surendra Nath's party consists chiefly of school-boys, and the elderly gentlemen who pique themselves on their superior intelligence and position are incensed at finding themselves pitted against such a party. These men charge Surendra Baboo with the offence of spoiling school-boys. But if what was done in the Town Hall on Friday last was really the work of school-boys, then these school-boys should no longer be treated with contempt. For they have become a power in the country, and it will not do to ignore the fact.

There is no foundation, however, for the statement that Baboo Surendra Nath obtained his victory with the help of school-boys. Surendra Baboo should explain to the public how the matter stands. Again, if there were students at that meeting who were unfit to vote, why were they *permitted* to vote. Surely the Lieutenant-Governor, when counting the votes, could have ignored such votes.



Baboo Surendra Nath had no mind to move the amendment, and he did so only when he found that those who had taken charge of the amendment had been won over to the other side, either by a glance from the Lieutenant Governor or by a few sweet words from his lips. But Surenda Baboo could not be so won over, and by sticking to his amendment he enhanced the honour of his country. And it should be noted in this connection that the Town Hall affair would have given rise to no comments whatever if, instead of being victorious, Baboo Surendra Nath had suffered a defeat. Nothing of all this clamour about school-boys, &c., would then have been heard.

The charge preferred by some against Baboo Surendra Nath that he is laying the axe at the root of loyalty is absolutely without foundation. Baboo Surendra Nath was not opposed to any display of loyalty by the people; he was opposed only to wasting public money on an entertainment at the Rink.

The noise made by the boys at the Town Hall is set down to their disloyalty to Government. But as Sir Steuart Bayley was not present at the meeting in his capacity of Lieutenant-Governor, how can the noise made by boys be construed to have been an act of disloyalty? Considering the insulting language made use of at that meeting towards those present by the party opposed to Baboo Surendra Nath's amendment, the consequence would have been more serious than it was if the party abused had not consisted of Bengalis.

For is it at all possible that the men who trampled upon the people of India during the Ilbert Bill agitation and entered into an unholy compact with them the next moment for the purpose of preserving their own selfish interests, who felt no hesitation whatever in raising triumphal monuments to the memory of Sir Ashley Eden and Sir Rivers Thompson, and who rent the skies with vociferous praises of Lord Dufferin should say anything and everything with eyes proudly distended, noses disdainfully turned up, and tongues absolutely unbridled, and everybody else should listen to them submissively and without uttering a word of protest?

The Government officials in this country are in the habit of counting middle class people for nothing, but Babu Surendra Nath showed them at the last meeting at the Town Hall that the middle class people are no longer to be neglected or scorned, and by doing this Baboo Surendra Nath has brought honour on the middle class. As regards Baboo Surendra Nath's amendment, it was very proper and well considered. The agitation which is now going on in the country over the Town Hall meeting will neither injure Surendra Baboo nor do any good to the city. It is therefore hoped that all further discussion on the subject will cease and both the parties will try to do their duty.

SAMAYA,  
Dec. 13th, 1889.

53. The *Samaya*, of the 13th December, refers to the conduct of

Mr. Justice Parsons of the Bombay High Court.

Mr. Justice Parsons of the Bombay High Court at the Bombay Town Hall feast, and observes as follows:—Mr. Justice Parsons' conduct

may have astonished Mr. King, M.P., but the writer sees nothing astonishing in it. In this country all high officers of Government are of Mr. Justice Parsons' stamp. They do not like the acts of Government to be freely discussed. And it was with the view of putting a stop to all free discussion of Government measures that the Press Act was passed by Lord Lytton, and it is with the same object that the Official Secrets Act has been passed by Lord Landsdowne. Government in this country looks upon any adverse criticism of its measures as an act of disaffection and disloyalty. And the inspired organs of Government, such as the *Pioneer*, think in the same way. When Mr. Caine, M.P., came to this country to speak against the excise policy of Government, the *Pioneer* advised Government to forcibly send him out of the



country. Mr. Justice Parsons has, however, done one good to the country by conducting himself as he has done. For henceforward the members of Parliament will know what sort of men the Indian officials are.

The Town Hall meeting.

54. The same paper has the following on the recent Town Hall meeting:—

SAMAYA,  
Dec. 13th, 1889.

According to the *Statesman* newspaper, Sir Comer Petheram's proposal virtually included Baboo Surendra Nath's amendment, because the Chief Justice was also for spending the surplus fund in erecting a memorial of Prince Albert's visit. But this view will not bear examination. For as no money was likely to be left after meeting the expenses of the Prince's reception, and of the entertainment at the Rink, the allusion to a memorial in Sir Comer Petheram's proposal virtually meant nothing. But what after all is the use of *nautches* and *tamashas*? Instead of being useful in any way, they will do much mischief by creating in the Prince's mind a false idea of India's wealth and prosperity. In Mysore the Prince actually said that the Native Princes of India must be immensely rich to be able to get up shows and entertainments on such a scale! Do away with these *nautches* and *tamashas*, and let the Prince see with his own eyes what the real condition of India is.

The statement that Baboo Surendra Nath's amendment was supported only by school-boys is without foundation. Men like Messrs. Cotton and Harrison, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sarkar, and others were for the amendment. The way in which the men who were opposed to the amendment left the hall was not creditable to them. It is hoped that another public meeting will be held, where the question of giving a suitable reception to the Prince can be satisfactorily settled. When a public meeting is held for any purpose, it behoves all concerned to give effect to the conclusions which are arrived at in it.

The late Town Hall meeting.

55. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 13th December, delivers itself as follows on the late collapse of the Town Hall meeting:—

ARYA DARPAN,  
Dec. 13th, 1889.

What a dreadful thing! The Lieutenant-Governor himself has been insulted; the highest judge in the land and the incarnation of Justice, Sir Comer Petheram, has been insulted, and the *elite* of the country have also been insulted. And who are the men that insulted Maharaja Sir Jatindra Mohan Tagore, Hon'ble Raja Durga Charan Law, and Prince Feroke Shah? Who but the school-boys of Calcutta apparently, and Baboo Surendranath Banerjea in reality? The fact is, never before was such a condemnable act done in this abode of Aryans, India. What we have said so far must have excited the curiosity of our male readers, as well as of our readers of the fair sex. They must be curious to know all about this matter, and we shall satisfy their curiosity.

As the Chairman was about to put to the vote the resolution moved by the Chief Justice, up started Baboo Surendranath Banerjea to his feet and proposed an amendment to the effect that the money raised by subscriptions should not be spent on pageants, but on the establishment of a leper asylum.

Kumar Satyabadi Ghoshal seconded Baboo Surendranath's amendment. The Chairman had now no alternative except asking the meeting which proposal it approved—whether that of Sir Comer Petheram for pageants, or that of Baboo Surendranath for a leper asylum. It should be stated here that Baboo Surendranath had prepared himself beforehand for the combat. He had induced a large army of boys to come to the Town Hall. These students formed the majority in that meeting. They all cried out that they were for Baboo Surendranath's amendment. Now the Lieutenant-Governor, who was in the Chair, was obliged to declare that Baboo Surendranath's amendment had been accepted by the meeting. The army of boys did not cease



clamouring even after that. They thought that the proposal of their idol, Surendra Baboo, had not been accepted and turned the Town Hall meeting into a veritable fish market. A school-master in the employ of Baboo Surendranath now rose and shouted : "I beg to second the amendment." The Lieutenant-Governor saw that the matter was coming from bad to worse and that a fish market was no place for a gentleman to remain in. He himself requested the audience to keep quiet. But the audience were boys and something more than that, boys turned politicians. What were elders and superiors, the Lieutenant-Governor or Jotindranath or Durgacharan, to them? They care for nobody. The Lieutenant-Governor is a man of a very gentle disposition and that saved the boys. He therefore did nothing except requesting Surendra Baboo to stop the uproar. Surendra Baboo then rose and said that his proposal had been accepted by the meeting. This satisfied the boys, the wind was laid low, and the disturbed earth had peace again. By the adoption of Surendra Baboo's amendment the original resolution was levelled to the dust. The meeting dissolved, and no arrangement was made for the reception of the Prince.

What is the real state of things? The grandson of the Empress will soon be in Calcutta. Receptions have been accorded to him in Bombay, Madras, and all other parts of the country. Will Bengal and Calcutta alone do nothing in the matter? The attempt which was made to organise a reception on the part of the people of Calcutta has been frustrated by the clamour of beardless boys. Another fact is worthy of note in this connection. The event proves the necessity of inquiring what sort of instruction is being imparted in the schools of the town. Who is responsible for this undoing of the action of the representative of the Empress, and of the venerable *elite* of the country? What do school-boys know of such matters? Study should be their sole business. It will be time for them to vote at public meetings when they have received education and learnt to think. Who instigated those who have not yet attained the age at which they may be allowed to vote? Has not Baboo Surendranath instigated these boys? This is why we say to Surendra Baboo—"Be quiet Surendra Baboo! be quiet!"

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,  
Dec. 13th, 1889.

56. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 13th December, hopes that all

The reception of Prince Albert  
Victor in Calcutta.

sections of the Calcutta community will forget their differences and unite in organising measures for giving a fitting reception to Prince

Albert Victor. The Maharaja of Durbhanga has offered to adorn and illuminate the town at his own expense. Let him do it. But let wealthy natives and Europeans, on the other hand, subscribe to and swell the fund started by Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee, for getting up a permanent memorial of the Prince's visit. The Calcutta Municipality will of course contribute in aid of the fund. If it is necessary to entertain the Prince at the Rink, let it be done with money raised by subscriptions, and let the balance of such money be made over to the permanent memorial fund.

SULABH SAMACHAR-O-  
KUSHDAHA,  
Dec. 13th, 1889.

57. The *Sulabh Samāchār-o-Kushdaha*, of the 13th December, says

"An imminent danger."

that English free trade is ruining India. English traders are taking away valuable

goods which can be used for reproductive purposes, such as jute, cotton, wheat, rice, &c., and bringing to India goods which cannot be so used, such as cutlery, crockery, piece-goods, perfumery, &c. Thus England profits by what it takes from India, and India loses by what it receives from England. The increase of the poverty and weakness of the people of India is due to the English free trade. And if no check is put upon that trade, the whole country will be reduced to a condition more deplorable than that of the aborigines of America. But, alas! there is apparently no hope that any attempt will be made to check it.



This English free trade is not only draining away India's wealth, it is also carrying away the staple food articles of the people. In the first quarter of 1889, 14,63,326 maunds of wheat were exported from the port of Calcutta alone, and large quantities of the same article must also have been exported from Madras, Bombay and Kurrachi. Last year 125,000 tons of rice were exported from Rangoon. There is very great demand for wheat in England. The cultivators of the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab have therefore taken largely to the cultivation of wheat, and they sell all the wheat for ready money, because ready money is very tempting to them, and themselves eat less nutritious things like *bhutta*, *mukai*, and *gram*. Their physique will therefore deteriorate. The cultivation of wheat on the same land for several years will make the land less and less fertile until at last it becomes incapable of yielding any corn whatever. The condition of Bengal in this respect is even more deplorable than that of the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab. For food-grains are still cultivated in the latter provinces, whereas in the former cultivation of paddy is being given up in favour of the more lucrative jute and linseed. The cultivation of jute is increasing every year in Rungpore, Dinagepore, Pubna, Furreedpore, Dacca, and other eastern districts, and many cultivators of those districts have entirely given up the cultivation of paddy and purchase rice with the money obtained by selling jute.

The fact that cultivators have begun to purchase rice means that it is high time to consider how people who are not cultivators must be faring. The import of rice into the hâts of Eastern Bengal is decreasing, and the import of jute into them is increasing every year. Naraingunge in Dacca was once a famous paddy mart; it is now a famous jute mart, the markets there being full of bales of jute, and the residents going to other markets to buy rice for food. It is not in the power of the people of Bengal to check free trade, and it is time for Bengali patriots to consider how their countrymen can be saved from the evil consequences of free trade.

The execution of Tantia Bhil.

58. Referring to the execution of Tantia Bhil, the same paper observes as

SULABH SAMACHAR-O-  
KUSHDAHA,  
Dec. 13th, 1889.

follows:—

Tantia was a noble dacoit, and he killed no man with his own hand. Many people of Central India prayed to Government to commute the sentence of death passed on him, but their prayer has been rejected. The rulers have not been able to give a proof of magnanimity in this matter, and a stigma will therefore attach to their names.

59. Referring to the collapse of the late Town Hall meeting the same paper observes that the people of India have been always loyal. Those who want festive demonstrations in honour of Prince Albert Victor are at liberty to give effect to their wish. But what objection can there be to commemorating the event by the establishment of a permanent institution instead of wasting money in *nautches* and *tamashas*? It is a satisfactory sign of the time that the people, as a body, are beginning to dislike wasteful and empty demonstrations.

SULABH SAMACHAR O-  
KUSHDAHA.

60. The same paper complains that the inhabitants of the Bongong and Ranaghat sub-divisions living on the banks of the Ichamati and the Churni rivers are in the habit of throwing dead bodies into those streams instead of cremating them. Even the dead bodies of those who die of cholera are thrown into the rivers, and men drink the water which is poisoned in this way. Both the streams become very shallow in winter and summer, and the use of their water generates diseases in that part of the country. Government has directed its attention to village sanitation, and it is hoped that the Magistrates of Nuddea and Jessore will compel the Hindu

SULABH SAMACHAR-O-  
KUSHDAHA.

Throwing corpses into rivers within the Bongong and Ranaghat sub-divisions.



inhabitants of those districts to cremate dead bodies instead of throwing them into rivers.

SUDHAKAR,  
Dec. 13th, 1889.

61. The *Sudhakar*, of the 13th December, says that, though it does not approve of all the entertainments which were proposed to be held on the occasion of the visit of Prince Albert Victor to Calcutta, it must say that it is a right thing to do honour to the Sovereign. It is no wonder that Hindus and Mussulmans, who spend money so lavishly in festivities on the occasion of pujas and marriages, should desire to hold festivities in honour of the Prince. But it might also be right for one to propose that the money should be devoted to some work which would benefit the country. The writer thinks the Chief Justice's proposal to have been reasonable to some extent. The Sovereign of these realms lives far away in England, and it will be most absurd if that Sovereign's grandson is allowed to enter Calcutta in silence, if not a bomb-shell announces his approach, not a candle is lighted, and not a banner waves in the air in his honour. A leper asylum may easily be established on this occasion, if any one takes the trouble of raising money for the purpose. The writer does not wish that the money raised should be spent on idle amusements. Let sufficient money be spent upon a proper reception of the Prince from the amount which will be raised for the purpose, and let the remainder be devoted to some work of permanent usefulness or beneficence.

Prince Albert Victor's reception.

BANGABASI,  
Dec. 14th, 1889.

62. The *Bangabasi*, of the 14th December, says that before his execution, Tantia was asked to mention his last wish; whereupon Tantia said that he wished to be shot dead by the European soldier who was stationed at the place of execution. But his prayer was refused. What was the use of making such a mock show of courtesy to a dying man? Perhaps such conduct has the approbation of very civilized peoples!

The execution of Tantia Bhil.

BANGABASI.

Cholera at Panchgethia in the Hughli district.

63. A correspondent of the same paper says that there is great cholera mortality just now at Panchgethia in Hughli on account of want of medical aid. There are some quacks in the village who do more harm than good. Government is therefore requested to save the lives of the villagers by sending a competent medical officer.

BANGABASI.

64. The same paper regrets that the Town Hall meeting should have been made to end in a *fiasco*. The writer strongly condemns the action of Baboo

Surendra Nath Banerjee, and remarks that his proceedings on that occasion were foolish, and marked by a want of foresight. The meeting would have been successful if it had been only a meeting of the subscribers, and not a public meeting. But let bygones be bygones, and let all men now act harmoniously for the purpose of doing honour to Prince Albert Victor. It may be noted with satisfaction that the distinguished inhabitants of the town have taken steps for according a fitting reception to the Prince, and that the Maharaja of Durbhanga has volunteered to adorn and illuminate the town at his own expense.

Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee, on behalf of the Indian Association, has also offered Rs. 10,000 for the construction of a leper asylum in commemoration of the Prince's visit, and has promised to send more money for the purpose.

The writer will be glad if a fitting reception is given to the Prince at Calcutta, and if a leper asylum is also built in honour of his visit. If both things are done, people will rightly say that good has come out of evil.

SANJIVANI,  
Dec. 14th, 1889.

65. The *Sanjivani*, of the 14th December, says that, on the day of the recent meeting in the Town Hall, the police used force to prevent all people dressed

The Town Hall meeting.



in dhoti and chudder from going upstairs. Even old men, who had never before in their lives put on pantaloons and a chapkan or a coat, and had come in their native dress to this meeting of an Oriental people, were obliged to remain standing at the door, while boys dressed in the English fashion were given free access to the meeting. Surely no greater respect could be shown to oriental ideas! What else could be expected from a movement in connection with which the European mercantile community had made themselves the custodians of Orientalism—the community which evinced so great friendship with the Indians during the Ilbert Bill agitation?

After the arrival of the Lieutenant-Governor, however, the people downstairs were allowed to come up, but not to occupy the large number of seats still available. The police at first began to push them into a corner, but did not oppose them when they afterwards occupied the empty seats. For the disorder and confusion which ensued, it is the police and their advisers who are solely to blame. It is not clear what the *Hindu Patriot* newspaper means by saying that the promoters of the meeting were fully aware of the intentions of the opponents and the preparations they had made to obstruct business, and that it was only their hatred of such low and dishonourable methods which prevented them from baffling the opposition with similar weapons. The promoters would not have certainly secured the aid of the police, and even of the detective police, on the occasion if their object had not been to exclude the other party from the meeting. This is the second instance in which the detective police has been called upon to attend a public meeting on duty, the first having been the meeting held to vote an address to Lord Dufferin. And both meetings have been held under the auspices of the same promoters.

The writer thanks Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee for opposing the party who unjustly aspersed the national character by saying that ancient Hindus were more fond of pomp and pageantry than good and permanent works of public utility. Baboo Surendra Nath, however, in his ignorance of oriental matters, himself made a mistake in the course of his speech by attributing the preference of the people for useful works to their present Western education.

Nawab Abdul Luteef disapproved of Babu Surendro Nath's amendment in the name of the Mahomedan community, and it is for that community to judge whether he had the right to speak in their name. An educated and influential Mussulman gentleman, recently honoured by Government with the title of Khan Bahadur, has written to Babu Surendra Nath expressing his approval of the Babu's amendment.

It is not true that Babu Surendra Nath was enabled to carry his amendment with the aid of school-boys only, the fact being that there were many besides school-boys who voted for the amendment. On the other hand it is doubtful whether Sir Comer Petheram's proposal would have been adopted, even if the votes of the school-boys had been left out of account. This is not the first occasion on which school-boys have been permitted to vote at public meetings, nor has the *Hindu Patriot* always disapproved of school boys voting at such meetings. That the disapproval of the *Hindu Patriot* is not reasonable, and is only the outcome of vexation and disappointment, is shown by the fact that the Reception Committee has on it a school-boy, the son of the late Babu Kristo Das Pal, as a member.

It is claimed for the promoters of the meeting that they are all men of noble birth, but, as a matter of fact, in constituting the Committee, no respect was shewn to noble birth as it is understood either in Europe or in India. Neither the Nawab Bahadoor of Moorshedabad, nor the Maharaja of Cooch Behar, was elected Chairman of the Committee, nor was the Maharaja of Durbhanga given this honour. Neither the Raja of Nuddea, nor the Maharaja of Nattore, neither the Maharaja of Susang, nor the Maharaja of



Dinagepore, neither Maharani Swarnamayi, nor Raja Surjakanto Acharya Chowdhuri, neither the Nawab family of Dacca, nor the Raja of Bhowal, neither Raja Sashi Sekhaheswar Raya, nor Babu Surendra Nath Pal Chowdhuri found a place on the Committee which was composed of almost all the members of the British Indian Association. The members of this Association may be wealthy men, but with the exception of those representing the Paikpara family, no other member is known for any very extensive charities. It is doubtful whether the British Indian Association would have possessed a local habitation of its own if the money raised from the public, aye, from many poor men, had not been available for the purpose. The *Hindu Patriot* will come to know by-and-bye whether those poor people who have come in for his sneers can really raise money for the erection of a permanent and useful memorial of Prince Albert Victor's visit to Calcutta.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADH ARANI,  
Dec. 16th, 1889.

The reception of Prince Albert  
Victor.

66. The *Navavibhakar Sadhārani*, of  
the 16th December, has the following about  
the Town Hall meeting :—

The manner in which attempts are now made to collect public opinion in this country is unreasonable, immoral, injurious, and utterly opposed to the traditions of the country. The establishment of Boards and Municipalities, in which fools and wise men, educated men and uneducated men, are gathered together by the *fiat* of laws, or under the English practice of carrying by majority of votes, has been in the highest degree mischievous. Whoever tries to collect public opinion in this country on the principle of majority of voices must be guilty of the offence which Surendranath committed at the last Town Hall meeting. And who is there that will not try to increase the strength of his party if the will of the majority is to be the law in such matters in the country? You say that Surendranath is strong with the support of men whose opinions have no value. But are all of them wise men who elect Municipal Commissioners and members of Boards? Are half, one-fourth, aye, even one-eighth, of these men able men? And yet there has been no disaster in Bengal up to this time. And will it be said that this petty *fiasco* in Calcutta has produced any great disaster? On that day, the Lieutenant-Governor's face became scarlet in anger, Dr. Sarkar bolted away in trepidation, Lalmadhab turned blue with fear, Kunjalal shook like an aspen leaf, and even the ringing voice of Mehta grew hoarse. The country, it would seem, was making steady progress with its Municipalities and Boards—Municipalities and Boards which have led to corruption, scandals and family dissensions, when, all on a sudden, on the evening of the 6th December 1889, it was hurled into an abyss of ruin by Surendranath!

The fact is, the collapse of the Town Hall meeting was a very small matter. It will do no harm and might do good. It will, it is hoped, open the eyes of at least a few people to the evil which is being caused by the vicious system which the English Government is gradually introducing into this country—the system, that is, under which honoured men have to put up with insults.

The reception of the Prince is clearly a duty. But if all communities cannot give him a united reception, let each receive him in its own way. This will make the reception more honourable to the Prince than otherwise. Let Englishmen receive him in the English fashion, and let natives receive him in the native fashion. Let those who are fond of amusements indulge in innocent amusements; let those who are charitably disposed give rice and clothes to the poor; and let those who consider the erection of a permanent memorial the best way of honouring the Prince erect such a memorial. Different ways are enjoined for the celebration of divine worship. Why should not then there be different ways of honouring the king?



Those who are known as the leaders of the country are seldom found to pay any regard to the real condition of the country in anything they do. There cannot be two opinions about the necessity of doing honour to the Prince and offering him the heart's love of the country. But the Prince should not only be honoured, but also apprised of the real condition of the country. It is by no means true that the Prince will not be duly honoured if heaps of money are not thrown into hell, and if the pocket of the Great Eastern Hotel Company is not swelled by feeding Englishmen with beef and pork at the cost of Hindus and Mussulmans.

Does love reside in money or in the heart? If in money, then poor men have no love in their hearts. The writer does not think that the Prince will not be duly honoured if no money is spent by the poor on amusements and pageants. Is there a man of sense that can say that the Prince will not be duly honoured if the people flock to their future Emperor, pronounce blessings on him with joyful hearts, and acquaint him with their real condition? It will be the cause of evil in the present and of calamity in the future if the Prince is deluded by a false show of outward glitter. If the reception which will be given to the Prince in the name of the people is to be characterised by reckless expenditure and unrighteous actions, the writer will pray on behalf of the people that the reception may not be given in their name. The people, as a body, hold very different views about the character of the reception which should be given to the Prince. So let the few rich men, who will give money for such a reception, distinctly declare that the reception is theirs and theirs alone.

The writer is unable to vote in favour of a reception which will be marked by wasteful expenditure. Even the baby at the breast will say that the money of India, thousands of whose people are in a chronic state of scarcity, should on no account be spent on pageants and shows. Again, every Hindu must say that Hindus should never feed the Prince with unholy food. If sufficient money can be raised, it would be well to establish some institution for the improvement of agriculture or manufacture. Such an act will, it is believed, meet with universal approval. Let there be no more idle wrangling which only stirs bad blood.

67. The *Som Prakāsh*, of the 16th December, referring to the recent Town Hall meeting, says that it does not

SOM PRAKASH,  
Dec. 16th, 1889.

The Town Hall meeting.

disapprove of Baboo Surendra Nath's amendment, because it is better that money should be spent in erecting a permanent memorial than in getting up empty shows and *tamashas*. But Baboo Surendra Nath ought to have considered that whereas it would require a considerable sum of money to erect a permanent memorial, shows and *tamashas* could be got up at a comparatively small expenditure of money. The adoption of Baboo Surendra Nath's amendment has made the rich men of the country angry, and they are not likely to subscribe on behalf of his proposal. Baboo Surendra Nath must look to the young men of the country for money. But these young men who are ever ready to make speeches and raise their hands for voting purposes will be found wanting when the time for action comes.

68. The *Dainik o Samāchār Chandrikā*, of the 18th December, has a poem welcoming Prince Albert Victor to Calcutta, in which the Prince is addressed in the

DAINIK O SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Dec. 18th, 1889.

A poem on Prince Albert Victor.

following style :—

Come future Sovereign of India! Even if you do not remedy the evil, open your eyes and see in what condition India now is. A great noise of wailing is rending the heavens and the fell diseases of poverty and degradation are opening their wide jaws. And to all these evils is conjoined unrighteousness. There is wailing on all sides on account of famine. The



sea of poison is overflowing. The country is groaning under police oppression. Oppressions take place every day, large sums of money are spent, and the fire of taxation is ever burning. The country is being devoured by that huge giant of the outstill system, and men are dying.

# URIYA PAPERS.

UTKALDIPKA,  
Dec. 7th, 1889.

69. All the native papers of Orissa for the week under report are jubilant over Mr. Bradlaugh's approaching presence at the ensuing meeting of the Indian

Mr. Bradlaugh in India.

National Congress at Bombay. The *Utkaldipiká* says that the Orissa Association of Cuttack has already made arrangements for presenting him with an address on behalf of Orissa, to be sent to him in a nicely built silver casket of Cuttack filigree manufacture. It also says that Mr. Bradlaugh will read in the Congress a draft of a Bill, relating to reforms in the Legislature of India, which he means to introduce into the British Parliament in the next session.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD,  
Dec. 4th, 1889.

70. The *Uriya and Navasamvád*, of the 4th December, and the *Samvâdvâhiká*, of the 5th December, notice at

A daring robbery in Balasore town.

length a glaring case of robbery, perpetrated in Balasore town, and regret that the offenders have not been as yet brought to justice.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,  
*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
*The 21st December 1889.*